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News Release

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Firefighters conduct two air rescues on Sunday

Firefighters responded to two distress calls on Sunday which required Air 1 rescue support in Pīla'a and Wailua.

Shortly after 9:30 a.m. Hanalei firefighters were dispatched to the trail leading to Pīla'a beach, where a 53-year-old California woman apparently fell and injured her ankle. Due to the rough terrain, rescuers were unable to safely wheel the patient up the trail.

Rescue 3 aboard Air 1 was dispatched to the scene and extricated the patient from the shoreline. The woman was brought to a nearby landing zone where she was assessed by awaiting medics. She was transported in stable condition to Wilcox Hospital by a private vehicle.

Later that day, Kapa'a firefighters were dispatched shortly before 4:30 p.m. to a man in distress in the Wailua Homesteads residential area.

A 73-year-old Wailua man was cutting down a tree when he slipped and fell approximately 100 feet off of a cliff.

After arriving at the scene, a Kapa'a firefighter secured himself into a rescue harness and hiked down the cliff to prepare the man for air rescue. Rescue 3 aboard Air 1 left the Po'ipū brush fire and arrived in Wailua to short-haul the victim out using a Stokes litter. The man did sustain serious injuries and was transported to Wilcox Hospital by awaiting medics.

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